

took us many days of discussion, many days of debate back and forth on various amendments and although it doesn't seem to be attracting much attention at this time, you are going to find that the series of events that will follow if you do vote for the Johnson motion to revive it will stymie the Legislature for many hours into the future. Again, I emphasize that the right thing to do is to kill the bill because its approach is wrong. You can negotiate all you want to but if the approach is wrong from the beginning, you will never be able to satisfy the legitimate concerns of those that oppose this legislation. It simply isn't possible. To relate...

SPEAKER NICHOL: Excuse me, Senator Wesely. (Gavel.) Ladies and gentlemen, let's please hold it down so we can hear the speaker. Thank you.

SENATOR WESELY: I have got Senator Rupp's attention. He was all right to begin with. I would like to have some of the other attention, those who are less supportive. Good, Harris is okay too. We...my sense is this, that the public out there wants tax relief but the public wants tax relief that is fair and is targeted to those in greatest need and this bill does not provide for that. It sets tax relief that is essentially going to go much more to those with greater wealth than to those that have less wealth. Those that are in greater need of assistance will have less return to them through a rebate system than they would through a homestead exemption program. And so clearly, as Senator Hall talked about, to the average citizen, to the average person out there on the street in Nebraska this bill is a loss, not a gain. To the average taxpayer out there they are going to be paying more in sales and income tax to pay for this than they will receive back in property tax relief. Now who are the big winners? Well, the big winners are going to be the big property owners whether that be in agriculture, or business or even in your own homes because the rebate system is going to target those kind of people more than a homestead exemption which is the same for everybody across the board. And so I think in the end once the homeowner out there finds out that this bill is going to do what I think it is going to do, you are going to find instead of support a great deal of opposition. So the key at this time is to not support the revival of the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.